

Message Text

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14

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 IO-15 ISO-00 NEA-10 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USSS-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 ACDA-19 AID-20

DRC-01 /165 W

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P R 081013Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1307

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1481

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MCAP

SUBJ: SOMALI REACTION TO ME HOSTILITIES

REF: MOGADISCIO 1479 (NOTAL)

1. PRES. SIAD SENT PERSONAL MESSAGES OCT. 7 TO SYRIAN AND EGYPTIAN CHIEFS OF STATE CONGRATULATING THEM ON HAVING "RE-PULSED THE WANTON AGGRESSION OF THE ENEMY". IN SEPARATE MESSAGE TO ALL OTHER ARAB HEADS OF STATE SIAD STATED VICTORY WOULD COME ONLY BY "YOUR COLLECTIVE ACTION OF BOTH MILITARY AND MATERIAL SUPPORT FOR EGYPT AND SYRIA." IN PRESS CONFERENCE AFTERNOON OCT. 7, FONMIN ARTEH "CONDEMNED THE BLATANT AND NEW AGGRESSION OF ISRAEL AGAINST EGYPT AND SYRIA...", THE LEAD SENTENCE OF OFFICIAL SOMALI NEWS AGENCY ARTICLE SUMMARIZING FONMIN'S PRESS CONFERENCE STATED "SOMALIA FULLY SUPPORTS THE LEGITIMATE STRUGGLE OF EGYPT AND SYRIA AND PUTS ALL ITS RESOURCES AT THEIR DISPOSAL." (EXT OF SIAD MESSAGES AND FONMIN STATEMENT AS OFFICIALLY REPORTED CONTAINED REFTTEL.)

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2. PRESS REPORTS ONE LOCAL DEMONSTRATION OUTSIDE MOGADISCIO

IN SUPPORT OF ARAB STATES. LIFE CONTINUES NORMALLY IN
MOGADISCIO.

3. COMMENT:

(A) DESPITE OFFER TO PUT "ALL ITS RESOURCES" AT EGYPTIAN
AND SYRIAN DISPOSAL, SOMALIA HAS NO INTENTION OF DIVERTING
ITS MILITARY PERSONNEL OR MATERIEL FROM ETHIOPIAN BORDER
WHICH IS GSDR'S PRIMARY CONCERN. WE NOTE THAT MESSAGES OF
SUPPORT CAREFULLY REFERRED TO "YOUR" (I.E., ARAB) STRUGGLE.

(B) FACT THAT FONMIN STRENGTHENED SIAD'S EARLIER MESSAGES
OF SUPPORT BY ADDING SOMALI WILLINGNESS PROVIDE MATERIAL
ASSISTANCE PROBABLY REFLECTS GSDR FEELING IT WAS LAGGING
SOMEWHAT BEHIND OTHER AFRICAN SUPPORTERS OF EGYPT AND SYRIA.

(C) SOMALI OFFICIAL STATEMENTS NOTEWORTHY IN NOT MEN-
TIONING US OR "IMPERIALIST" SUPPORT OF ISRAEL, EVEN THOUGH
"IMPERIALIST" THEME IS CARRIED IN PRESS EDITORIAL.
KIRK

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NNN

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